



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
5522 Research Drive Park
Baltimore, MD 21228

In Reply Refer To:
U.S. Geological Survey
Attention: Freedom of Information Act Officer
5522 Research Park Drive
Baltimore, MD 21228

April 8, 2015

Ms. Ashley Palomaki
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
1200 6th Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101

Re: U.S. Geological Survey Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) FOIA Tracking # 2015-00021
– Referral of Records

Dear Ms. Palomaki:

While processing a Freedom of Information Act request from the Steptoe & Johnson LLP, dated October 22, 2014, the U.S. Geological Survey located 1,226 pages of emails sent between Mr. Robert (Bob) Seal and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) employees. These emails substantially involve and concern the EPA and the Pebble Mine Project in southwest Alaska.

On March 16, 2015, I sent the emails from Fiscal Year 2010-2011 emails, totaling 479 pages (without attachments) to you, requesting a Consultation. Per our discussion on April 7, 2015, you agreed that the U.S. Geological Survey should refer the 479 pages of emails to the EPA to process and respond directly to Steptoe & Johnson LLP. I have not included a copy of the records with this referral letter.

We will notify Steptoe & Johnson, LLP that they will receive a direct response from your office regarding the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 emails, excluding the attachments.

If you have any questions, you may contact me by phone at (443) 498-5521, by fax at (443) 498-5510, by email at bmay@usgs.gov, or by mail at 5522 Research Park Drive, Baltimore, MD 21228.

Sincerely,

Brian A. May
U.S. Geological Survey
Freedom of Information Act Officer